



THE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF  
GREAT CROSBY

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ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1923.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
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THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

GREAT CROSBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I am more than pleased to be able to lay before you such a satisfactory account of the general state of Health and the sanitary condition of the district as is contained in this Report. The report of last year was a very good one, but, taken all through, this year's is in advance of it. The sanction of the Minister of Health was obtained in June for power to have Whooping-Cough compulsorily notifiable in the district, and it is this disease which has so largely increased the number of Notifications of infectious diseases. You will find all the details of the year's events under the following different headings.

Forty-nine houses have been erected during the year, making a total of one hundred and twenty-three during the past three years. These houses comprise both detached and semi-detached buildings, and are of a good size. Very few bungalows are now being built. Twenty-eight houses were unoccupied at the end of the year.

The erosion of the coast is still progressing, and the sixth house, Holmside, has now been demolished.

### General Statistics.

Area (acres), 1,867. Population (1923), 13,650. Number of inhabited houses (1921), *3/20*. Number of families or separate occupiers (1921), . Rateable value, £118,396. Sum represented by a penny rate, £493.

### Population.

The population at the Census of 1901 was 7,555, at that of 1911, 12,274, and at that of 1921, 13,721. Our estimated population for this year is 14,857. The population, given by the Ministry of Health, is 13,650, and it is on this figure that the various calculations are based.

### Milk Supply.

The milk supply is practically wholly obtained from the dairies in the district; only, in two instances, is it distributed by purveyors, who purchase it from outside sources. It has not been necessary to take any action with regard to the **quality** and purity of it. .

The dairies and cowsheds, on inspection, have been found to be clean and well-ventilated, and the cattle in a healthy state.

A case of Anthrax in a cow in a dairy in the district was notified in October. The dairy was at once visited, the premises and utensils connected with the cowshed were thoroughly disinfected, and the manure disinfected, destroyed, and buried. No further case occurred.

### Food and Drugs Act.

These Acts are administered by the County Police, who take all the necessary measures.

It was found, during one of our inspections, that a cellar was being used as a factory for the preparation of sausages and cooked meats, and that the conditions of the place were quite insanitary for such purposes. It was, accordingly, condemned and closed.

It was also found necessary to destroy 192 lbs. of beef, and 245 eggs.



### **Sewage and Drainage.**

The sewers and drains have received the usual careful attention, and all complaints in connection with the latter have been at once investigated.

All the new houses built in roads where sewers exist are connected with them. In roads, newly planned, sewers are laid, and the houses drained into them.

New sewers have been laid in St. Andrew's Drive, Moorland Avenue, Park Avenue, Abbotsford Gardens and Claremont Road, to the extent of five hundred and thirty yards.

An ample supply of disinfectants is granted to persons, in whose houses infection occurs, for the disinfection of the drains and clothing.

### **Scavenging.**

Eighty ashpits have been abolished and portable bins substituted. During the past three years one hundred and eighty-eight ashpits have been done away with.

### **Public Elementary Schools.**

The Scholars attending these Schools have been so free from epidemic diseases that no School closure was required.

The drains of the various schools are flushed and treated with disinfectants four times a year, when the schools also receive a thorough cleaning. These operations are carried out oftener should any infectious trouble manifest itself.

### **Infectious Diseases.**

One hundred and thirty-one Notifications of these diseases were received, compared with seventy-six last year. Whooping - Cough, now notifiable, accounted for forty-six, and Tuberculosis for thirty-one of these notifications. Twenty-one patients, the same number as was returned last year, were removed to Hospital. These diseases were very mild in character, and caused eighteen, as against twenty-two, deaths last year. Fourteen of these eighteen deaths were attributed to Tuberculosis.

# Notifiable Diseases.

The subjoined table gives the number of cases of infectious diseases notified, the number of deaths from these diseases, the number of cases removed to hospital, and the deaths in hospital during the year 1923.

Disease.	CASES NOTIFIED													Total Deaths	No. removed to Hospital	No. of Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the District
	Total Cases at all Ages	YEARS														
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over			
Small Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup ... ..	4	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	3	3	...
Erysipelas ... ..	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	30	...	...	1	2	10	12	3	1	...	...	1	...	...	16	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia... ..	5	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis																
Males ... ..	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	6	...	2	...	6	...	...
Females ... ..	13	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	9	3	...	...	...	5	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis																
Males ... ..	2	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Females ... ..	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
*Measles & German Measles																
Whooping Cough ... ..	46	7	7	6	4	16	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 yrs.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Chicken Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1
Total ... ..	131	6	10	8	8	7	29	16	7	18	11	8	3	18	21	1

\* These diseases are not notifiable in this district.

The following table gives the number of patients removed to, and treated in, the Infectious Hospital for the past fifteen years :—

1909	1910	Census pop. 1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
25	11	11	32	28	39	65	35	24	43	24	39	23	21	21

The average number of cases treated in Hospital during the past fifteen years is 29.4.

### Isolation Hospital.

Liverpool Corporation Infectious Hospital.

### Sanatoria.

None provided at present.

### Measles.

There were cases of this trouble in the Spring, but of not sufficient numbers as to constitute an epidemic.

### Tuberculosis.

The number of persons notified under this heading was thirty-one, twenty-five of whom were pulmonary, and six non-pulmonary. These notifications are ten more than were received last year.

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to the total tuberculosis deaths is  $\frac{1}{5}$ .

### Influenza.

This complaint was fairly general from the end of February to the end of March in a very mild form, and did not give rise to any increased mortality.

### Scarlet Fever.

This disease was present in a mild form all through the year and caused no deaths. Thirty cases were notified, and of these fourteen cases came from six houses, and, of these, again, four cases came from one house. Sixteen patients were removed to Hospital.



### **Diphtheria.**

Four notifications were received in connection with this malady. This is the smallest number of notifications which have been registered under this heading for very many years.

### **Typhoid Fever.**

A mistress and maid were notified as suffering from this malady. The young son of the family first became ill, and was seen by a Specialist in consultation with the family Doctor. Meningitis, from the character of the symptoms, was diagnosed. His mother nursed and slept with him. The maid washed his napkins. They both developed Enteric Fever. The case of the child was not notified. On becoming aware of these cases, the Ministry of Health sent a request for a report on the prevalence of Typhoid Fever in the District, and this was complied with.

### **Encephalitis Lethargica.**

Two persons contracted this disease, and one died. The illness of the man who died ran a rapidly fatal course, and the clinical symptoms were so interesting that an account of them was forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

### **Pneumonia.**

Four cases of acute Lobar Pneumonia and one case of Influenzal Pneumonia were notified during the year.

### **Whooping Cough.**

This complaint was fairly prevalent during the months of June, July, August, September, October and November, and was mild in character. Forty-six sufferers were notified.

### **Venereal Diseases.**

No action has been taken in this District under the Venereal Diseases Act, beyond the sending of notices to the several medical men as to where the various drugs can be obtained. The County has this work in hand, and supplies salvarsan, etc., to those who are qualified to use them.



## Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District.

The weather, as served out to us during the past two or three years, may have given us plenty of scope to exercise our powers of grumbling, but it has, at the same time, reduced our mortality figures. Its coldness has prevented the usual plague of flies. Fruit, milk, and other readily fermenting and decomposing articles of food have kept better. There has been, as a result, an absence of gastric and intestinal troubles in infants and young children. The system, too, has been in a better state of tone. The result was that there was only one death from diarrhoea in children under two years of age. In order to reduce the conditions in which flies breed and by which they are attracted, care is taken that manure is not kept lying about shippens, etc., and that ashpits are replaced by covered ashbins.

It is gratifying to note that the total deaths, viz., 137, are nineteen fewer than occurred last year. Of this number forty-two were those of persons whose ages ranged from seventy to ninety-three years. These statistics bear a strong testimony to the healthiness of the district as a residential locality.

The rainfall during the year was 34.6 inches, and was 4.69 inches above the average for the past forty-eight years. The average temperature was 49.1 degrees. I am indebted to Mr. H. Montgomery, St. Anthony's Road, for these figures.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics of the year 1923.

				Male.	Female.	Total.
Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	93	104	197
„ Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	4	6
Deaths	...	...	...	70	67	137

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth?—

From Sepsis—*Nil*. Other causes—*One*.

Death of Infants under one year of age?—Legitimate—13;  
Illegitimate—1. Total—14.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)?—*Nil*. Whooping Cough (all ages)?  
—*Nil*. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)?—*One*

Rates per 1,000 of population.							
				Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Phthisis Death-rate.	Rate of deaths under 1 year to 1,000 births.
1922	...	...	...	14.9	12.9	0.88	88
1923	...	...	...	14.8	10.0	0.80	68
Mean of 10 years (1913-1922)				17.8	10.7	0.69	73
Increase or decrease in 1923							
On Ten years average	...	...	...	— 3.0	— 0.7	+ 0.11	— 5
Previous year	...	...	...	— 0.1	— 2.9	— 0.08	— 20

N.B.—The population, Births and Deaths for 1923, on which the percentages were arrived at, have been supplied to me by the Ministry of Health.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—Nazareth House, Liverpool Road, Great Crosby; The Blundellsands Nursing Home, Blundellsands Road West; and 3, Fairholme Road, Crosby.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the district—Hatherley House, Waterloo; Liverpool Institutions; Bootle Institutions.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District?—*No.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.								Males.	Females.
All causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	...	67
1. Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
2. Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
3. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
4. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
5. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
6. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
7. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
8. Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	—
9. Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	1
10. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	5
11. Other tubercular diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1
12. Cancer, Malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	13
13. Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	1
14. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	4
16. Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	10
17. Arterio-Sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	1
18. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	2
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	4
20. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
21. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	—
22. Diarrhœa, etc. (under two years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	—
23. Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	—
24. Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	1
25. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	—
26. Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	1
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	4
29. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
30. Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
31. Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	15
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
Special causes (included above)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year—Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	1
Total Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	95	...	108
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	93	...	104
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	4



### Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1923.

Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1923, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1922. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
		All Causes	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping- cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 yrs.	Total Deaths under 1 year	Causes of Death Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales...	19.7	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.14	0.03	0.10	0.07	0.22	0.44	7.7	69	92.0	6.9	1.1
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	20.4	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.03	0.12	0.09	0.22	0.40	9.9	72	92.2	7.2	0.6
157 Smaller towns (1921 adjusted popu- lations 20,000-50,000)	19.8	10.6	0.01	...	0.19	0.02	0.10	0.06	0.21	0.38	6.4	69	92.6	6.1	1.3
London ...	20.2	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.09	0.13	0.17	0.45	10.2	60	90.8	9.1	0.1



## Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1923.

### NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home. Arrangements in the district for—(a) General Nursing—*Nursing Homes, of which there are three, for General Nursing.* (b) For Infectious Diseases, *e.g., Measles, etc.—No Homes or Hospitals for Infectious Diseases.*

Midwives.—Is any midwife employed by or assisted by the *Local Authority*?—*No.* Number of midwives on the County Council Register, 31/12/1923—*No.* on Register *Two.* No. actually practising—*Two.* Any comments as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the midwifery service?—*No insufficiency.*

What action has been taken by the Council respecting Child Welfare Work?—*None up to the present; this subject has been under consideration on several occasions.* Has a local Child Welfare Centre been established?—*Yes. By the County.* If so, where? *57 York Avenue.* Give days and time open.—*Wednesday, from 2 to 4 p.m.*

Have any of the following been provided in your district:—Day Nursery—*No.* Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children—*No.* School Clinic—*No, but there is a Dental Clinic.* Tuberculosis Clinic—*All cases go to the County Dispensary at Seaforth.* Venereal Diseases Clinic—*These cases go to Liverpool and Bootle Centres.*

Has any local scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and of Milk for Infants?—*Such a scheme was in operation until the 14th March, 1921.*

Is there a District Nursing Association in the district?—*Yes.* How many District Nurses employed?—*One.*

If so, does any arrangement exist between the Council and the Association in respect of Child Welfare work?—*No, this work is carried out by the Nurse appointed by the County.*

### Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1923—Contd.

If no such arrangement exists, does the Association voluntarily undertake Child Welfare work?—*No.*

Does the Association undertake (a) Midwifery Cases?—*No.* (b) Monthly Nursing?—*No.*

Hospital Accommodation provided :—For Smallpox—*Very good, and as many beds as are required.* For other Infectious Diseases—*Very good, no shortage of beds.* \*Joint or otherwise—*Joint, by agreement with the Liverpool Corporation.*

\* If you have the joint use of Isolation Hospital belonging to some other Authority, state nature of "Agreement," or "Arrangement." Is any Retaining Fee paid?—*£3 3/- per week per head on all cases in hospital.*

No. of Beds available for your District :—For Smallpox—*As many as are required.* For other Infectious Diseases—*As many as are required.*

Is there any Hospital Accommodation in the district for—(a) Maternity Cases—*No, with the exception of the various Nursing Homes in this district, Waterloo, etc.* (b) Children—*No.* (c) Tuberculosis—*No.*

Disinfection :—No. of Houses disinfected—105. Method (state disinfectant used)—*Sulphur fumigation and Formalin Spray and Vapours.* Are Houses disinfected after (a) Phthisis—*Yes.* (b) Measles—*Yes, when required.* Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, etc. (steam or otherwise)—*Dry Heat.* No. of Articles disinfected—895. Where is Apparatus situated?—*In Council's Yard.*

If Apparatus at Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, etc., of Patients not removed to the Hospital?—*No.*

If not, please state how disinfection of Clothing, etc., in these cases is carried out. *In the Stove at the Council's Depot.*

Ambulance facilities :—(a) For Infectious Cases—*City of Liverpool Infectious Disease Ambulance.* (b) For Non-infectious and Accident Cases—*Ambulances are obtained either from a local garage, or from Bootle and Liverpool.*

## Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1923—Contd.

### LABORATORY WORK.

Bacteriological Examinations. No. of Specimens examined :—  
 Blood—*None*. Sputum—*None*. Milk—*None*. Throat Swabs  
 —*None*. Swabs for Ophthalmia Neonatorum—*None*. Others—  
*None*.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910. Is a supply of Anti-toxin kept  
 within the district ?—*Yes*. If so, where ?—*Local Chemist*.  
 Amount used during 1923—*None*. Other Sera or Vaccines  
 used—*None*.

### SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Tabular Summary of the work of the Sanitary Department :—  
 Source of Water Supply—*Liverpool Corporation*. What is its  
 condition ?—*Very good*. Possibilities of contamination ?—*None*  
*that I know*. Any insufficiency, and where ?—*No*. Nature  
 of extensions (if any) during the year ?—*To new houses and*  
*along new roads*.

Are Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satis-  
 factorily for whole of district ?—*Yes*. How performed (state  
 whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of  
 Houses ?—*By Sanitary Authority*. If Privy Middens exist,  
 are they emptied by day or night ?—*By day*. How is the  
 Refuse disposed of ?—*On to " Tips " on low-lying ground owned*  
*by Council*. Has a Destructor been provided ?—*No*.

Sewage Disposal Works—Method of Treatment ?—*None*. What  
 is the character of the Drainage System ?—*Water-carriage by*  
*gravitation to Sea*. Any developments during year ?—*About*  
*530 yards of 12-9 in. pipe sewers were laid out in the district*.  
 Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system—*A small*  
*area is not yet sewered*. Action taken—*Drain Testing, Flushing,*  
*etc.—Both drain testing and sewer flushing are carried out*.

Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams—*The cleansing*  
*and bottoming of ditches and water-courses throughout the district*.

Canal Boats—Number Inspected—*None*.



**Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1923—Contd.**

What is the condition of the Bakehouses?—*Very good.* Number—**11.**

What is the condition of Slaughter-houses?—*None in the district.*

Has a Public Abattoir been provided?—*No.*

What is the condition of Lodging-houses?—*None exist.*

What is the Sanitary condition of the Schools?—*Very good.*

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected?—*Yes.* What is their condition?—*Very good.*

Have Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B.?

Give date—*April, 1908.* Are they enforced?—*Yes.*

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow. (a)

Where cows are habitually grazed—*600 cubic feet.* (b)

Where cows are not habitually grazed—*800 cubic feet.*

Cowkeepers. Total No. of Cowkeepers—**16.** No. on Register—**16.**

No. of Inspections during the year—**51.**

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers). Total

No. of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors—*Two.* No. on Register—*Two.*

Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows? Give particulars—*Yes, whenever required.*

Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk—*No action has been necessary this year.*

Inspection of Food—Action taken in respect of places where food is prepared—*Frequent inspection is made of shops and premises where food is prepared and exposed for sale. As a result of one of these inspections a cellar was found where sausage and cooked meats were being prepared to be used as food, and was condemned and closed on account of its insanitary condition. Any food poisoning?—No.*

Amount of food condemned or surrendered as unfit for human consumption—(a) Tuberculous carcasses and parts—*None.*

(b) Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat (other than (a) above)—*192 lbs.* (c) Other foodstuffs—*245 Eggs.* No. of

Legal Proceedings and result—*None.*



### Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1923—*Contd.*

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Milk and Cream Regulations—*The County Police carry out all the necessary duties under these Acts.*  
Action taken by Local Authority (if any)—*None.*

Notices served—Nuisances. No. of Notices served—Informal, 236.  
Statutory—10. No. of Nuisances abated—529. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result—*None.*

Closets and Ashpits. Privy Middens :—No. of Middens—9. No. of Closets attached to these Middens—13. No. of Pail Closets—6.  
No. of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens)—79. No. of Fresh Water Closets—5,144. No. of Portable Receptacles for refuse—3,202. No. of Waste Water Closets—*None.* No. of Privy Closets converted during 1923—To Fresh W.C.'s—*None.* To Waste W.C.'s—*None.* To Pails, etc.—*None.* No. of Pail Closets converted to Fresh W.C.'s—*None.* Waste W.C.'s—*None.* No. of Waste W.C.'s converted to Fresh W.C.'s—*None.* Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion?—*If necessary.* If so, how much?—*By agreement.* What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for new property?—*Water Closets.*

Smoke Nuisance. No. of Observations—*Six.* No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result—*None.* What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour?—*No time limit.*

Has the Authority adopted—"The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890"—*Yes.* "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907"—*Yes.* "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890"—*Yes.*

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health—*Dr. James Huskie.* Is he a whole-time Officer?—*No, but he is really on duty at any hour of the day or night when required.*

Sanitary Inspector—*Mr. Joseph Almond.* Is he a whole-time Officer?—*Yes.* If not, what other appointments does he hold?—*None.*

Assistant Sanitary Inspector—*No Assistant.*

### Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1923—*Contd.*

Any other Public Health Officers, such as Health Visitors and Special Nurses ; if any, give names, salaries, qualifications, and offices held—*None*.

#### HOUSING.

No. of new houses erected during the year :—(a) By private enterprise—49. (b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme—*None*.

No. of houses in course of erection under Council's Building Scheme—*None*.

Unfit Dwelling-houses—Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)—378. (2) No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—12. (3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation—*None*. (4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3) ) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation—36.

Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices—No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers—36.

#### Action under Statutory Powers—

A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919—*None*. (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs—*None*. (2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—(a) By owners—*None*. (b) By Local Authority in default of owners—*None*. (3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close—*None*.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts—(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied—6. (2) No. of dwelling-houses in

**Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1923---Contd.**

which defects were remedied—(a) By owners—6. (b) By Local Authority in default of owners—*None*.

c. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909—(1) No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders—*None*. (2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made—*None*. (3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit—*None*. (4) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made—*None*. (5) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders—*None*.

d. No. of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, etc.—*None*.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1923—*Reconstruction and Amendment of the drains to houses, and the Abolition of 80 old Ashpits, and the substitution of portable galvanised bins.*

Chief Sanitary Requirements of District—*A Refuse Destructor.*

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**Bye-Laws, Acts, Orders and Regulations.**

In force in the District are :—

Bye-laws as to New Streets and Buildings.

Bye-laws as to Houses Let in Lodgings.

Bye-laws as to Lodging Houses.

Bye-laws as to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Order, 1885.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Factory and Workshops Act ; Bakehouse Regulations.

Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915.

Amended Regulations of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Order, 1885, came into force June 1st, 1908.



**Bye-Laws, etc.—Contd.**

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. This Council applied for an order putting into force Clause 58 of the above Act.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Notices under Part V. were circulated amongst Lodging House Keepers. December 3rd, 1907.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Section 85 and 86 Regulations re Servants' Registry Offices and Marine Store Dealers.

Bye-laws in respect to Parks and Recreation Grounds 1907

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908

Notification of "Ophthalmia Neonatorum" (Compulsory), June 11th, 1910.

Housing, Towns Planning, etc., Act, Dec. 3rd, 1909.

Bye laws in respect to Sea Shore, 1911.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1911, & Feb. 1st 1913.

Compulsory Notification of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and Acute Poliomyelitis, 1912.

Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations, 1915.

Compulsory Notification of Measles and German Measles, 1915.

Local Government (Emergency provisions) Act, 1916. (A portion during the war and for six months after, &c., and further periods for different periods of the Act.)

Notification of Infectious Diseases. (Weekly Returns. Order, 1916. Statutory Rules and Orders. Factory and Workshop Welfare. Supply of Drinking Water, 1917.)

Public Health (Notification of Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1918.

General Order Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations (No. 2), 1918.

General Order Public Health (Influenza) Regulations, 1918.



**Bye-Laws, etc.—Contd.**

General Order Public Health (Influenza) Regulations (No. 2), 1918.

General Order Public Health (Acute Encephalitis Lethargica, and Acute Polio-Encephalitis) Regulations, 1918.

Public Health (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, etc.) Regulations, 1919.

The Public Health (Acute Encephalitis Lethargica and Acute Polio-Encephalitis) Regulations, 1919.

Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

I am, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES HUSKIE,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



# SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

1923.

## Disinfection.

The following tables give the particulars and number of rooms fumigated after infectious diseases, etc., and the number of times the stove was used to disinfect bedding, etc.

Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria	Measles	Tuber- culosis	Cancer	Pneumonia	Continued Fever	Cerebro, S.F.	Enceph- alitis Lethargica	Scabies	Erysipelas	Chicken Pox.	Cleansing.	Total Rooms
63	2	9	5	36	12	4	1	8	5	9	...	...	124	278

## NUMBER OF TIMES STOVE USED, AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE.

Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria	Measles	Tuber- culosis	Cancer	Pneumonia	Cerebro S.F.	Enceph- alitis Lethargica	Scabies	Erysipelas	Continen- tal Fever	Cleansing	Total Stove used
28	2	4	...	28	12	4	1	2	2	...	1	6	90

The following list comprises the articles subjected to the "Dry Heat" process for which the stoves have been used:—

Beds and Mattresses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106
Blankets, Sheets, Counterpanes, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	420
Pieces of Bedding, Pillows, Bolsters, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	201
Wearing Apparel, Towels and Sundries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Carpets, Rugs, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Books disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36

Total No. of Pieces 857

The following Schools were fumigated during the year:—

Council Schools	...	...	...	...	...	36 Rooms
SS. Peter and Paul's Schools	...	...	...	...	18	"
St. Luke's (Boys') School	...	...	...	...	6	"
Halsall (Girls') School	...	...	...	...	14	"
Total Rooms						74

### Nuisances.

236 preliminary notices and 10 statutory notices were served during the year. 800 inspections and 321 reinspections were made in the district for the purpose of ascertaining the existence of nuisances. The following table gives some indication of the work done with respect to nuisances. They only, however, have reference to a part of the work done in this matter, as much of it is done without having resort to the service of a notice.

#### DETAILS OF IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED DURING THE YEAR.

To clean choked drains and W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	71
" repair or reconstruct drains	...	...	...	...	...	16
" repair W.C.'s, baths, basins, lavatories, and cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	39
" repair soilpipes and ventilating shafts	...	...	...	...	...	14
" repair or lengthen waste pipes to slopstones	...	...	...	...	...	9
" provide slopstones	...	...	...	...	...	3
" abolish foul ashpits and provide ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	80
" defective ashbins replaced or made good	...	...	...	...	...	121
" repair roof of dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	18
" prevent dampness in dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	15
" repair or provide and fix eaves and downspouts	...	...	...	...	...	17
" repair pavements in back yards	...	...	...	...	...	29
" repair pavements and floors in dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	35
" replaster walls and ceilings of dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	20
" remedy defects in workshops	...	...	...	...	...	1
" remedy defects in cowsheds and dairies	...	...	...	...	...	1
" remove animals and fowls from back yards, or prevent nuisance from same	...	...	...	...	...	4
" strip and cleanse walls, etc., after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	13
" provide and fix sash cords to windows	...	...	...	...	...	10
" repairs to wash-houses	...	...	...	...	...	5
" miscellaneous...	...	...	...	...	...	51

### Mortuaries.

The Mortuary is situated in the Council's Yard. Five bodies have been placed in it during the year, one of which was found on the shore, three on the railway line, and one received for the purpose of *post mortem*.



### **Smoke Test Applied to Drains.**

During the year the smoke test was applied to the drains of 35 houses, and resulted in the detection of 19 defective drains. Notices to amend the defects were issued where they were not voluntarily remedied.

### **Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.**

16 persons are registered as cowkeepers and purveyors, and two persons as purveyors of milk only. There are about 340 cows kept for dairy purposes within the district.

65 visits were made to the above premises during the year, which were generally found to be in a good and cleanly condition. Only one notice was served, and this was in connection with structural defects, and was complied with.

### **Factories and Workshops Act, 1901.**

#### **FACTORIES.**

The inspection of these is in the hands of H.M. Inspector of Factories. Any act, neglect, or default which can be dealt with under the Public Health Acts, is referred by him to the Local Authority. Three notices were received during 1923, which were satisfactorily dealt with.

#### **WORKSHOPS.**

The number of workshops on the register at the end of the year was 14 (exclusive of bakehouses). The number of inspections made to these was 35. The workshops are generally kept in a cleanly condition.

#### **BAKEHOUSES.**

There are 11 bakehouses in the district, two of which are underground. These have been frequently and systematically inspected during the year and all found to have been limewashed or cleansed as required by the statute at regular intervals. The total number of visits paid was 27.

### OUTWORKERS.

Occupiers of Factories, Workshops, or any place from which work of certain kinds is given out are required to keep a list of outworkers employed by them, and to send a copy of the list to the Local Authority on or before the 1st February, and the 1st August, in each year. One list was received during 1923 referring to that of a shoe maker.

### Food Premises.

Inspections to these premises is made from time to time, and several improvements were carried out at our suggestion.

192 lbs. of beef and 245 eggs were surrendered during the year.

There are no slaughterhouses in the district. Practically the whole of the meat that comes into the district is from Liverpool and Birkenhead lairages.

### Infectious Disease.

The drains of houses, in which infectious disease occurs, are treated with disinfectants, during the patients' illness and until convalescent, 69 visits being entailed in this work.

### Smoke Observations.

Six smoke observations were taken at various periods, and on no occasion was black smoke emitted for a longer period than three minutes continuously.

### Petroleum Spirit and Carbide of Calcium.

At the close of the year there were nine premises in respect of which licenses to store petroleum had been issued, and two carbide of calcium.

### **Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.**

This Act, which came into force on January 1st, 1920, was carried out by the County Council until March 31st, 1922, when, at the request of the County Council, the District Council consented to carry out the duties.

The occupier of lands, or premises, is compelled by the Act to prevent his land from becoming infested with rats and mice. In many instances the occupiers request the Council to carry out the destruction of these pests. A suitable arrangement has been made with one of the Council's workmen, who has ferrets and dogs, to act as rat-catcher. 51 visits were made by him, which resulted in the destruction of 350 rats, being 67 less than last year. Many other premises were visited by the Sanitary Inspector and occupiers duly warned and advised. Notices are posted up in the district twice a year calling occupier's attention to the penalties for failure to destroy rats and mice.

JOSEPH ALMOND,

*Cert. Royal San. Inst.,*

*Sanitary Inspector.*

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